

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A water sensing wire for a cable. The water sensing wire has a conductor and a water permeable insulation surrounding the conductor. The conductor is formed by a plurality of metal wires. The water sensing wire may also have a plurality of filaments contained inside the water permeable insulation. Longitudinal and/or radial application of stresses cannot cause damage to the water sensing wire because damage can be avoided by the deformable cross section of the sensor conductor and by the reinforcement provided through the filaments. The water sensing wire is particularly useful in power cables but may also be used in telecommunication cables or optical fibres.